

TO ALL KSWG MEMBERS:

It is with great sorrow that I announce that Major Aye lost his battle with pneumonia and ARDS today. It is difficult to quantify what the loss of this stalwart volunteer means to Kansas Wing. We have lost a squadron commander, a staff officer, a marksmanship instructor, a grant writer, a ground branch director, and a friend to name just a few of the roles he filled.

Although he began as an aerospace officer, Major Aye participated in all three of Civil Air Patrol's missions. A dedicated participant in Emergency Services, it was never too late to call him for a blood run or an ELT. Major Aye would drive a cadet across the country and back to ensure he or she could participate in an encampment or an activity of interest. A seven time attendee at National Blue Beret, Major Aye took the Beret motto to heart and in his CAP service, "The mission came first." In eight years, he has touched the lives of countless others through his dedicated service to his community, state and nation. This loss will not be an easy one to overcome but we must stand together as a team and work to do so. Our wing is small and like a family. I know we will lean on each other during this difficult time.

I greatly appreciate the efforts of those who volunteered for extra duties and helped cover tasks and events during Major Aye's illness. Your dedication and support bolstered my spirits and allowed me to spend more time with Phillip during these last months. Details regarding his services will be forthcoming.

Yours in sorrow,

Regena Aye, Col, CAP

Commander, Kansas Wing

